

## MAYOR JERRY SANDERS Science and Technology Commission's The Public Broadband Access Working Group MEETING MINUTES

The Public Broadband Access Working Group (PBAWG) held a meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 hosted by the City Planning and Community Investment Department, located at 600 B Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: <u>Subcommittee Members Present</u>: Martha Dennis and Tyler Orion. City Staff: Steve Lastromirsky, City Attorney; Jean Cameron, Planning Division; Tina Hines Economic Development Division; <u>Members of Public</u>: Drew Maccullough, Socal Freenet; William Griswold, UCSD; Salvatore Giametta, the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Rick Simms, Small Business Advisory Board.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.
- III. APPROVAL MINUTES FOR: February 20, 2007 (MOTION/SECOND/Dennis/Orion/UNANIMOUS)
- IV. PUBLIC WIRELESS AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: This item was tabled until the next meeting.
- V. OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS:

Mr. Rick Simms Chairman of the Small Business Advisory Board and Mr. Salvatore Giametta, Vice President of Public Affairs & Communications with San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau were guests of the Public Broadband Access Working Group.

Mr. Rick Simms stated that since 1990 he has been a Consultant in Micro Economic Development. Mr. Simms educates business owners about financing and infrastructure opportunities. Mr. Simms is involved with the creation of the curriculum for a Micro Business Management Course and High Performance Management Training Course at USD.

Additionally, Mr. Simms stated relative to the discussion of digital inclusion that businesses cannot effectively operate without the capability to access information. Mr. Simms suggested the formation of a Community Investment Fund to assist small businesses with technological upgrades. The purpose of this fund would be to offer loans to small businesses.

Mr. Salvatore Giametta stated that the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau advertise the San Diego region as a travel destination. Mr. Giametta estimated that eighty-five percent of travelers come to San Diego for a vacation and the other fifteen percent on business. Over thirteen thousand meetings and conferences are held at the San Diego Convention Center.

In addition, Mr. Giametta mentioned that technology is important because visitors book travel destinations on the internet. The Convention and Visitors Bureau will create a One Stop Shop for visitor information on its web site to replace paper publications. Mr. Giametta in his conclusion opined that free WiFi has become the currency of the day and will become a standard expectation of service.

VI. UPDATE FROM CITY DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES: No new updates were given.

## VII. **FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:**

- A. Meeting dates for July, August, and September 2007: Due to the constraint of time, additional meeting dates will be scheduled at the next meeting.
- B. Agenda Topics: The PBAWG will continue to outreach and meet with stakeholder representatives.
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business the PBAWG Subcommittee adjourned.

Draft Prepared: 03/30/07

3/13/2007 Revisions to Draft: <u>Double Strikethrough and Italic</u> Final Approved:

Motion by: Orion **Revisions Prepared:** 

Board Vote: Unanimous

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